

Whole Nation Pays Homage To Pershing

Continued from page 1

army, the self-reliance, the endurance, the chivalrous daring which made them invincible."

Former Speaker Clark explained the purpose of Congress in honoring General Pershing, and read to him the resolution of thanks adopted by Congress. The resolution follows:

"The thanks of the American people and of the Congress of the United States are due and are hereby tendered to General John J. Pershing for his highly distinguished services as commander-in-chief of the American Expeditionary Forces in Europe, and to the officers and men under his command for their unwavering duty and valor throughout the war."

Representative Clark then introduced General Pershing as "the foremost living Missourian."

When General Pershing arose and faced the Congress and the galleries, it was several minutes before he was permitted to begin his response.

General Pershing's Reply

"I am deeply sensible of the privilege of appearing before you as a representative of the American expeditionary forces and am filled with emotion at the sentiments that have been expressed," said General Pershing. "This honor affords me profound gratitude as a recognition of the achievements of our splendid army. In receiving at your hands an expression of the approval of our people I am richly rewarded."

"A final report of the organization and the operations of our armies will be made to the Secretary of War. The manner in which this great force was developed into an instrumentality for victory is well-known to you. The burdens that fell to the lot of our soldiers have been heavy and the way beset by many obstacles, but faith in the righteousness of our cause and trust in Almighty God have given us courage and inspiration."

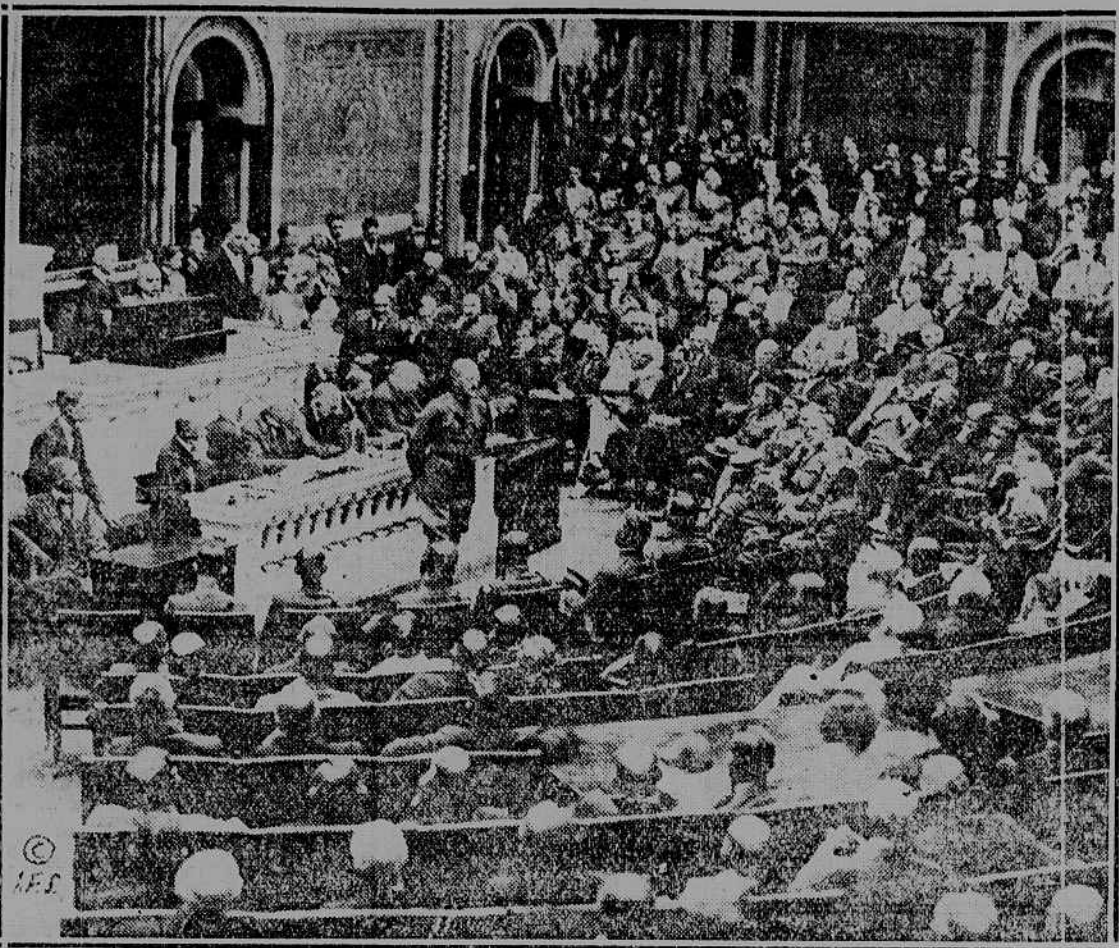
"The trials of battle demanded Spartan endurance and utmost self-sacrifice. Never have men faced a more difficult task, nor borne greater hardship, and never have troops shown a finer spirit of willingness or more resolute purpose."

"The night of America lay not only in her numbers and her wealth, but also in the spirit of her people and their determination to succeed at whatever cost."

Millions Eager to Follow

"While every man that went to France courageously did his part, behind him were millions of others eager to follow, all supported by a loyal people who deprived themselves to sustain our armies and succor our allies. Whether billeted in French, Belgian or

General Pershing Addresses Congress



Italian villages, or in the camps of England, our young men have left behind them a standard of frankness, of integrity, of gentleness, and of helpfulness which will give the other nations of the world a firmer belief in the sincerity of our motives."

"The benefits flowing from the experience of our soldiers will be broadly felt. They have returned in the full vigor of manhood, strong and clean. In the community of effort men from all walks of life have learned to know and to appreciate one another. Through their patriotism, discipline and association they have become virile, confident and broad-minded. Rich in the consciousness of honorable public service, they will bring into the life of our country a deeper love for our institutions and a more intelligent devotion to the duties of citizenship."

The Aid of Congress

"To you, gentlemen of the Congress, we owe the existence and maintenance of our armies in the field. With a clear conception of the magnitude of the struggle, you adopted the draft as the surest means of utilizing our man power. You promptly enacted wise

laws to develop and apply our resources to the best effect. You appropriated the fabulous sums required for military purposes. Many of your members visited the armies in the field and cheered us by their interest and sympathy. You made possible the organization and operation by which victory was achieved."

"Throughout the war the President reposed in me his full confidence, and his unflinching support simplified my task. The Secretary of War made repeated visits to the front, and I am deeply grateful for his wise counsel. Under him the various staffs, bureaus and departments, with all their personnel, are deserving of special acknowledgment for the ability with which their problems were met. The officers and soldiers who served at home are entitled to their full share in the victory. There existed a unity of purpose between our government in all of its branches and the command of the troops in the field that materially hastened the end."

Tribute to British Seamen

"Our navy performed a brilliant part in transporting troops and supplies and in maintaining our sea communica-

tions. The army was conveyed overseas with the maximum of safety and comfort and with incredibly small loss. In this glorious service the generous assistance of the seamen of Great Britain deserves our lasting appreciation."

"A special tribute is due to those benevolent men and women who ministered to the needs of our soldiers at home and abroad. The welfare societies maintained by a generous public gave us invaluable aid. In our hospitals the surgeons and nurses, both permanent and temporary, served with a skill and fidelity that will ever be worthy of our grateful remembrance."

"Business and professional men chartered their private interests and gave their service to the country. Devoted men, women, and even children, often in obscure positions, zealously labored to increase the output of ships, munitions, war material and food supplies, while the press and the pulpit stimulated patriotic enthusiasm."

"Our admiration goes out to our war-worn allies whose tenacity, after three years of conflict, made possible the effectiveness of our effort. Through their loyal support and hearty coopera-

tion a general spirit of comradeship sprang up among us, which should firmly unite the peoples as it did their armies."

"The cheerfulness and fortitude of our wounded were an inspiration and a stimulus to their comrades. Those who are disabled should become the affectionate charge of our people, whose care they have so rightly earned. Let us, in sympathy, remember the widows and the mothers who to-day mourn the loss of their husbands as sons."

"Our hearts are filled with reverence and love for our triumphant dead. Buried in hallowed ground which their courage redeemed, their graves are sacred shrines that the nation will not fail to honor."

"The glorious record made in the fight for our treasured ideals will be a precious heritage to posterity. It has welded together our people and given them a deeper sense of nationality. The solidity of the republic and its institutions in the test of a world war should fill with pride every man and woman living under its flag. The great achievements, the high ideals, the sacrifices of our army and our people belong to no party and to no creed. They are the republic's legacy to be sacredly guarded and carefully transmitted to future generations."

Members of Congress gave General Pershing an informal reception when he was leaving the chamber and after he had retired to the corridors outside the House of Representatives. They crowded around him, cheering, and as many as could shook hands with him. One little girl, the daughter of Representative William W. Wilson, of Chicago, a Republican member of Congress, was made happy when the General kissed her.

General Pershing was greatly amused at one of the many women who shook hands with him. The particular woman appeared reluctant to let the General's hand go. He smiled the "Pershing smile," and said, "Please don't hold my hand so long." She dropped it hurriedly and rushed away.

The commander paid an informal visit to the press gallery before he left the Capitol. There he met the fifty or more Washington correspondents and expressed to them his appreciation of the reception he has received since he landed at New York ten days ago. "I feel," said the General, "that I am just the instrument through which the American people are expressing their satisfaction for what our army has done."

Record Number of Requests

Made for Passports in Day

WASHINGTON, Sept. 18.—More than seven hundred applications for passports were received at the State Department today from persons seeking the privilege of visiting France, Belgium, Spain and Switzerland. The number established a record.

The issuance of passports already applied for will require more than two weeks, it was estimated at the State Department, owing to the inadequate clerical force.

Congress Blamed by Legion for Laxity in Aiding Wounded

Rehabilitation of Disabled Soldier Is a Record of Broken Promises, Says Article in the "Weekly"

Ingratitude and "inexcusable incompetence" are charged against Congress, the War Risk Insurance Bureau and the Federal Board for Vocational Education for failure to provide for disabled soldiers by the American Legion in an article published to-day in "The American Legion Weekly."

The investigation, the article states, has shown that the history of the nation's effort to rehabilitate disabled soldiers through training and reeducation is "a black record of broken promises and betrayal of trust."

"The men who gave most have received least from the nation," says the attack. "The men who served know that the hearts of the people are right, but the penniless and jobless cripple who cowered in the vigor of his manhood on the fighting front may find it difficult to differentiate between the sentiment of that people and the inexcusable incompetence of its public servants."

Up to June 23, it is asserted, the board, with its 1,637 salaried employees, had placed in training only 2,923 of the 239,000 Americans disabled in the war. Disabled men placed in employment with no training, or incomplete training, according to the article, number 16,410. Inquiry revealed, however, that 12,820 were "self-placed."

This, says the article, is an "eulogistic manner of saying they went out and got their own jobs."

"While these figures tell their own story," the article continues, "the policies of the board under which these results were obtained are more eloquent indications of the board's failure to provide adequately for the nation's disabled. From the policy pursued under the old law, which was one of generous promises and scant performance, under the new law the board proceeds on a programme of scant promises and scantier performance. In many instances it has placed so narrow a construction on the law as to indicate a conscious effort to diminish the number of disabled men to whom it shall be obliged to give training and subsequent employment."

"Vagaries of crippled men are confiscated. Only the 'major handicaps,' embracing the totally disabled, the blind and the seriously maimed, are considered at present. The others are told to find work, with the oily promise that their cases will receive attention in 'due course.' It appears to be a

hasty effort to build up a more impressive total of needy men benefited. "In consequence, thousands of wounded men are abroad, some of them in every community in the land, abandoned by the government they served. They stand on the threshold of a cheerless future, often the prey of actual want, always of the bitter reflections of promises unredeemed and hopes deferred."

Old 69th Regiment Joins Legion in a Body

Col. Donovan, Chaplain Duffy and Lt. Col. Anderson Among 2,600 Members Who Joined

The old 69th Regiment yesterday joined the American Legion in a body, 2,600 of its members organizing the 69th Regiment and Rainbow Division Post.

Lieutenant Colonel A. E. Anderson had a large part in forming the post. Others who signed the roster were Colonel "Wild Bill" Donovan, Major Thomas I. Reilly, Colonel Charles R. Hine and Chaplain Duffy.

Other posts affiliated yesterday included Nylie, composed of 150 New York Life Employees, and Gudinas, whose membership consists of ex-service men of Lithuanian descent.

Applications have been received by the legion from Private Wilbur Wilkins, Musicians and Neighborhood posts.

Sidney Rankin Drew Post, composed of newspapermen, actors and musicians who served their country, will meet at Ken's, adjoining the Belasco Theatre, to-night. The post is named for a son of the late Sidney Drew, killed while driving an airplane over the German lines.

The organization of Lieutenant Quince Mills Post, composed of "Sun" and "Evening Sun" employees, has been perfected. It is named after an "Evening Sun" reporter who fell at Epieds, July 28, 1918. It has ninety-four members.

Only One Camp in N. Y. District Closed by Army

WASHINGTON, Sept. 18.—Only one of the numerous military establishments in the New York City district has been "sold or salvaged," the War Department announced to-day in a statement showing the status of the hundreds of camps, posts, aviation field and miscellaneous property utilized by the army during the war. Camp Mills is the only property that is no longer used for War Department purposes.

The status of the other New York camps in the vicinity of New York follows: Camp Dix and Camp Upton, purchased by government now under way; Hazelhurst Field, retained temporarily by the army; Mitchell Field, owned by the United States; Garden City aviation supply depot, owned by the United States; Camp Merritt, retained temporarily; Camp Vail, New Jersey, purchased suspended by Congress.

30 Rookies Show What Army Has Done for Them

On May 1 None Could Speak a Word of English; Will Tour Country

Thirty square-shouldered, sun-tanned rookies, who four months ago knew as little of the school of the soldier and the manual of arms as they knew of the English language, drilled like veterans yesterday afternoon before a large audience that gathered at Broad and Wall streets.

They marched with the precision of veterans and handled their rifles with accuracy, and although their singing of "My Country 'Tis of Thee" while covered, was in strongly accented English, it was impressive.

These men, with one exception of alien birth, and until May 1, ignorant of even the simplest English, are the first graduates of the Recruit Educational Centre at Camp Upton. Fourteen nationalities are represented, and in the school at Upton, of 400 rookies, forty races are represented. The educational centres, of which the one at Upton was the pioneer, were organized shortly after the armistice was signed.

Major Simon T. Stewart, who was in charge of the exercises yesterday, said the work of "fusing aliens in a democratic melting pot" was begun by General Bernard Lentz, of the Regular Army, and these thirty rookies will begin to-day a tour of the country, going as far west as Milwaukee.

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